

Meredith Bruskin  
Swanville  
LD 1970

Dear Judiciary Committee Members: My name is Meredith Bruskin, I am a Nurse Practitioner and I live in Swanville. I believe that there may be no more important bill before you this session than LD 1970. I implore you to support this Bill--just as Senators Collins and King, and Representative Pingree understand the importance of protecting Native children from further abuse by being removed from their culture , extended families and community as has happened excessively in the past, by joining the Amicus Brief in support of ICWA before the Supreme Court, we must ensure that ICWA is reenforced in our State Legislature as well. I do not have to tell you of the damage done by removal of 25-35% of children from Wabanaki Tribes historically as documented in 1978. We have far to go in answering the Wabanaki Truth and Reconciliation discoveries and the harm done our Maine First Peoples. Please follow your hearts and all the studies that clearly show ICWA at least helps these children and communities repair. Please support LD 1970--it is the right thing to do. Thank you for listening.